

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Strabomantidae, *Oreobates barituensis*: Distribution extension, new provincial record and geographic distribution map

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Oreobates barituensis Vaira and Ferrari, 2008 (Figure 1) is the most recently described of 16 recognized species of the genus *Oreobates* Jiménez de la Espada, 1872 (Frost 2009). The genus occurs in western South America from southern Colombia to southwestern Brazil and northwestern Argentina (Hedges et al. 2008). The two Argentinean species of *Oreobates* (*O. discodalis* and *O. barituensis*) inhabit subtropical humid montane forests belonging to the ecoregion of Southern Andean Yungas (Vaira and Ferrari 2008). *Oreobates barituensis* is currently known only from three close localities (the most distant was separated about 10 km

straight-line) in northern Salta province, Argentina, and its possible occurrence in adjacent Bolivia has been discussed (Vaira and Ferrari 2008).

On 29 November 2008, MSA recorded and collected four males of *O. barituensis* (field numbers MSA1 to MSA4) which were calling from the bare ground or from small rocks at both sides of ruta provincial 83 (23°28'24.64" S, 64°56'46.57" W; 1622 m above sea level), close to a bridge over Arroyo La Loza, in the locality of Valle Grande, Valle Grande department, Jujuy province, Argentina.



Figure 1. *Oreobates barituensis*, adult male from Salta province, Argentina. Photo by M. S. Akmentins.

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On 30 November 2008, other three males were collected by MSA (field numbers MSA6 to MSA8) next to ruta provincial 83 (23°29'11.08" S, 64°56'43.69" W; 1660 m above sea level), Valle Grande department, Jujuy province, Argentina. Frogs were calling from bare ground in a small cliff.

On 9 December 2008, MSA and MV collected two males (collector numbers MV610 and MV611) in the locality of Tablada (23°05'9.17" S, 64°51'43.20" W; 1725 m above sea level), Oran department, Salta province, Argentina. These specimens were calling from rocks in an open grassland. The collected specimens were deposited in the herpetological collection of *Museo de Ciencias Naturales, Universidad Nacional de Salta*, Salta, Salta province, Argentina (MCN1249 to MCN1251).

With these new records, the species' range is extended ca. 111 km straight-line southwestern from type locality, Baritú, southernmost locality from where it was previously known (Figure 2) and the species' altitudinal range is extended 425 m higher than El Arazay (1300 m above sea level), the highest locality from where it was previously known (Vaira and Ferrari 2008).

The new localities provide a significant range extension for this newly described species and indicate a much wider distribution. This

constitutes valuable information for future evaluation of its conservation status.

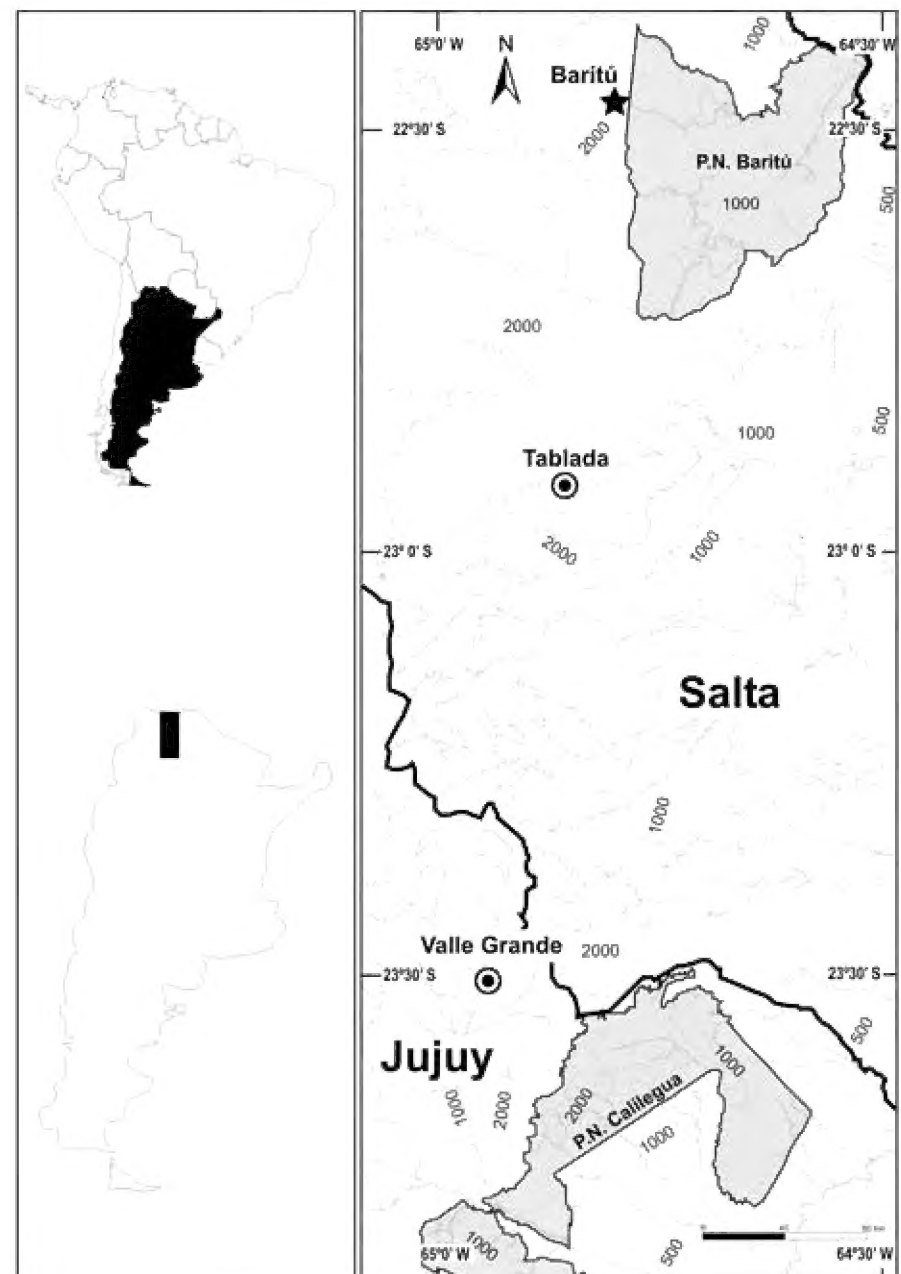


Figure 2. Geographic distribution of *Oreobates bariensis*. Star indicates type locality (Vaira and Ferrari 2008); circles indicate new records.

Acknowledgements

MSA acknowledges *Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas* (CONICET) for the doctoral fellowship (*Resolución* # 0029). We thank J. Köhler for corrections and suggestions.

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Received January 2009

Accepted April 2009

Published online May 2009